

PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: NICHOLS ET AL.                      Docket: P8863.00  
Serial No.: 09/750,739                      Group Art: 2623  
Filed: DECEMBER 29, 2000                      Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Title: USER AUTHENTICATION IN MEDICAL DEVICE SYSTEMS



Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Honorable Commissioner  
for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendment before consideration of the above-referenced patent application.

**In the Specification**

At page 1, line 27, please insert:

-- The present invention is compatible and complementary with the elements disclosed in the following pending applications: "Medical System Having Improved Telemetry," filed July 19, 1999, Ser. No. 09/356,340; "System and Method for Transferring Information Relating to an Implantable Medical Device to a Remote Location," filed on July 21, 1999, Ser. No. 09/358,081; "Apparatus and Method for Remote Troubleshooting, Maintenance and Upgrade of Implantable Device Systems," filed on October 26, 1999, Ser. No. 09/426,741; "Tactile Feedback for Indicating Validity of Communication Link with an Implantable Medical Device," filed October 29, 1999, Ser. No. 09/430,708; "Apparatus and Method for Automated Invoicing of Medical Device Systems," filed October 29, 1999, Ser. No. 09/429; "Apparatus and Method for Remote